

**COMMISSIONERS** 

MIKE GLEASON, Chairman WILLIAM A. MUNDELL

JEFF HATCH-MILLER

KRISTIN K. MAYES

**GARY PIERCE** 

BUCHANAN, CRD# 2452897 and JANE

Respondents.

DOE BUCHANAN, husband and wife,



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In the matter of:

JAMES JONATHON FRASER

**NOTICE:** 

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## BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

DOCKETEL

Arizona Corporation Commission

SEP 11 2008

DOCKETED BY

NR

DOCKET NO. S-20620A-08-0472

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED ORDER TO **CEASE AND DESIST, ORDER FOR** RESTITUTION, FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES, OF REVOCATION AND FOR OTHER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

EACH RESPONDENT HAS 10 DAYS TO REQUEST A HEARING EACH RESPONDENT HAS 30 DAYS TO FILE AN ANSWER

The Securities Division ("Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") alleges that respondent JAMES JONATHON FRASER BUCHANAN ("BUCHANAN") has engaged in acts, practices, and transactions that constitute violations of the Securities Act of Arizona, A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq. ("Securities Act").

I.

#### **JURISDICTION**

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and the Securities Act.

II.

## RESPONDENT

2. BUCHANAN, CRD# 2452897, was at all pertinent times a resident of Chandler, Arizona, and a registered securities salesman in Arizona. BUCHANAN was affiliated with LPL

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Financial Corporation ("LPL") from June 1, 2006, until he was discharged on or around March 21, 2008. LPL reported on the Central Registration Depository ("CRD") of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") that BUCHANAN's discharge was based upon the firm's review of "documents reflecting investments not held or offered by the firm," including "documents reflecting payments by individuals to Mr. BUCHANAN directly" and "documents reflecting purported investment statements not authorized or approved by the firm." LPL discharged BUCHANAN based upon the same transactions that are the subject of this action. Prior to his association with LPL, BUCHANAN was affiliated with American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. ("AEFA"), now known as Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. ("Ameriprise"), from February 2, 1994, until he voluntarily terminated his association on January 23, 2006. BUCHANAN was at all pertinent times licensed with the Arizona Department of Insurance as a producer, authorized to sell accident/health and life insurance, and variable life/variable annuity products.

- JANE DOE BUCHANAN was at all relevant times the spouse of BUCHANAN; 3. JANE DOE BUCHANAN may be referred to as "Respondent Spouse." Respondent Spouse is joined in this action under A.R.S. § 44-2031(C) solely for purposes of determining the liability of the marital community.
- At all times relevant, BUCHANAN was acting for his own benefit and for the 4. benefit or in furtherance of BUCHANAN and Respondent Spouse's marital community.

## III.

### **FACTS**

- 5. Beginning as early as 2001, BUCHANAN, operating out of Chandler, Arizona, engaged in an elaborate fraudulent scheme to offer to sell various types of securities, including debentures, which he described as "debentures with conversion privileges" and "7% Certificates."
- BUCHANAN told customers that they were investing in one or more coal 6. companies, including Hannah Energy, Inc. ("HEI") and Clean Coal Technologies, Inc. ("CCT"), based in Florida.

- 7. BUCHANAN made various representations to customers to persuade them that the securities he offered were safe from risk and profitable. These representations included statements that the investments were secure; that the investors would receive needed monthly income in the form of interest payments; and that the investments would not be influenced by fluctuations in the market.
- 8. BUCHANAN distributed various documents to customers, including copies of contracts entitled "Debenture Agreement with Conversion Privileges."
- 9. Some of BUCHANAN's customers, including elderly Arizona investors who had long-term relationships with BUCHANAN as their financial planner, invested their life savings in these debentures and certificates, believing BUCHANAN's reassurances that these investments were safe and would provide needed income, and trusting BUCHANAN as their friend.
- 10. BUCHANAN falsely claimed that the certificates and debentures were sold through his dealers.
- 11. BUCHANAN distributed fictitious documents to customers reflecting customers' purported purchase of these securities through BUCHANAN's dealer, for example dealer "Confirmation" forms reflecting purchases of "Investor Certificate 7%" or "HEI Debenture 10%," and fictitious dealer customer account statements reflecting purported accumulated earnings as "interest payable."
- 12. These securities transactions were not effected through BUCHANAN's dealers, and BUCHANAN's dealers did not authorize BUCHANAN to offer these securities.
- 13. BUCHANAN persuaded customers of his dealers to sell other securities that they owned, including bank certificates of deposit and mutual fund accounts, or to liquidate IRA account investments to purchase the certificates and debentures.
- 14. BUCHANAN directed customers to give him personal checks payable to BUCHANAN, which violated his dealers' rules prohibiting registered securities salesmen from accepting direct payment of funds from customers for the purchase of securities.

15. In at least one instance, a customer questioned BUCHANAN regarding his authority to accept direct payments of funds, and BUCHANAN told the customer to that her money was secure if she made the payment to him as "CFP," which she did. BUCHANAN was not a certified financial planner, and therefore, was not authorized to use the "CFP" designation.

- 16. BUCHANAN had some customers sign dealer forms entitled "Wired Funds Authorization," in which BUCHANAN represented that he was transferring customer funds from customers' brokerage accounts to brokerage accounts of the companies purportedly issuing the securities, for example, "Clean Coal Technologies, Inc."
- 17. BUCHANAN told customers that they would receive official ownership documents after their purchases. In some cases, customers did not receive official "certificates" of ownership, but were not concerned after they started receiving monthly statements or interest payments from BUCHANAN. Upon information and belief, BUCHANAN did not use the money obtained from these customers to purchase securities in their names, but deposited their funds in his own bank account and paid the "interest" payments to them out of his own account.
- 18. BUCHANAN effected securities transactions that were not recorded on the records of the dealers with whom BUCHANAN was registered at the time of the transactions. This sales practice is referred to as "selling away" and is prohibited conduct in the securities industry, and is defined as a dishonest and unethical conduct under the Arizona Securities Act.
- 19. On or about March 21, 2008, LPL discharged BUCHANAN after learning from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office that BUCHANAN was under criminal investigation for alleged fraudulent conduct involving securities customers, relating to these purported securities transactions.
- 20. After learning that LPL discharged BUCHANAN, some customers attempted to verify their ownership of the securities, and learned that there was no record of any purchase of securities in their names. These customers do not know where or how BUCHANAN used their funds, which they paid to him for the purchase of debentures and certificates.

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21. To date, investigation of BUCHANAN's unauthorized conduct has revealed at least 23 Arizona customers who paid over \$4,500,000.00 for certificates and debentures purportedly sold through BUCHANAN's dealers, including a Tempe Church, which invested \$1,000,000.00 in purported HEI certificates or debentures. Other customers who paid BUCHANAN funds for these purported energy securities included members of BUCHANAN's Tempe Church, where BUCHANAN served as a Board Member, and Mesa United Way employees, who met BUCHANAN as early as 1997, when BUCHANAN worked for American Express and handled the Mesa United Way Retirement Plans.

### IV.

## **VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1991**

## (Fraud in Connection with the Offer or Sale of Securities)

- 22. In connection with the offer or sale of securities within or from Arizona, Respondents directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts that were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made; or (iii) engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business that operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon offerees and investors. BUCHANAN's conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- a) Misrepresenting that securities transactions were effected through BUCHANAN's dealers;
- b) Failing to disclose that the securities were offered without knowledge or authorization from BUCHANAN's dealers;
  - c) Distributing falsified brokerage statements and forms; and
  - d) Misrepresenting earnings on the securities investments.
  - 23. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1991.

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### V.

## REMEDIES PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 44-1962

# (Denial, Revocation, or Suspension of Registration of Salesman; Restitution, Penalties, or other Affirmative Action)

- 24. Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-1962(A)(2) and (A)(10), BUCHANAN's conduct is grounds to revoke BUCHANAN's registration with the Commission as a securities salesman. Specifically, BUCHANAN has:
  - a) Engaged in conduct providing grounds for revocation under A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(2), by misrepresenting and failing to disclose material facts in connection with the sale of those securities, in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991 of the Securities Act.
  - b) Engaged in conduct providing grounds for revocation under A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(10), for dishonest and unethical practices in the securities industry, as defined in R14-4-130(A)(16) and (17) by effecting securities transactions that have not been recorded on the records of the dealer with whom he was registered at the time of the transactions, within the meaning of A.A.C. Rule R14-4-130(A)(17).
- 25. BUCHANAN's conduct is grounds to assess restitution, penalties and/or take appropriate affirmative action pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962. Specifically, BUCHANAN has engaged in conduct providing grounds for revocation under A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(10), for dishonest and unethical practices in the securities industry, by making unauthorized use of securities or funds of customers or converting customer securities or funds for personal benefit, within the meaning of A.A.C. Rule R14-4-130(A)(16), and by effecting securities transactions that have not been recorded on the records of the dealer with whom he was registered at the time of the transactions, within the meaning of A.A.C. Rule R14-4-130(A)(17).

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VI.

## REQUESTED RELIEF

The Division requests that the Commission grant the following relief:

- 1. Order BUCHANAN to permanently cease and desist from violating the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2032;
- 2. Order BUCHANAN to permanently cease and desist from violating the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962;
- 3. Order BUCHANAN to take affirmative action to correct the conditions resulting from Respondent's acts, practices, or transactions, including a requirement to make restitution pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-2032 and 44-1962;
- 4. Order BUCHANAN to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2036;
- 5. Order BUCHANAN to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962;
- 6. Order the revocation of BUCHANAN's registration as a securities salesman pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962;
- 7. Order that the marital community of Respondent BUCHANAN and Respondent Spouse be subject to any order of restitution, rescission, administrative penalties, or other appropriate affirmative action pursuant to A.R.S. § 25-215; and
  - 8. Order any other relief that the Commission deems appropriate.

#### VII.

#### **HEARING OPPORTUNITY**

Each respondent including Respondent Spouse may request a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-1972 and A.A.C. R14-4-306. If Respondent or Respondent Spouse requests a hearing, the requesting respondent must also answer this Notice. A request for hearing must be in writing and received by the Commission within 10 business days after service of this Notice of Opportunity

for Hearing. The requesting respondent must deliver or mail the request to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's Internet web site at <a href="http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp">http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp</a>.

If a request for a hearing is timely made, the Commission shall schedule the hearing to begin 20 to 60 days from the receipt of the request unless otherwise provided by law, stipulated by the parties, or ordered by the Commission. If a request for a hearing is not timely made the Commission may, without a hearing, enter an order granting the relief requested by the Division in this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting Linda Hogan, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number 602/542-3931, e-mail <a href="mailto:lhogan@azcc.gov">lhogan@azcc.gov</a>. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

### VIII.

### ANSWER REQUIREMENT

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-305, if any Respondent or Respondent Spouse requests a hearing, the requesting respondent must deliver or mail an Answer to this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, within 30 calendar days after the date of service of this Notice. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's Internet web site at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp.

Additionally, the answering respondent must serve the Answer upon the Division. Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-303, service upon the Division may be made by mailing or by hand-delivering a copy of the Answer to the Division at 1300 West Washington, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007, addressed to Pam Johnson, the attorney of record.

The Answer shall contain an admission or denial of each allegation in this Notice and the original signature of the answering respondent or respondent's attorney. A statement of a lack of sufficient knowledge or information shall be considered a denial of an allegation. An allegation not denied shall be considered admitted.

When the answering respondent intends in good faith to deny only a part or a qualification of an allegation, the respondent shall specify that part or qualification of the allegation and shall admit the remainder. Respondent waives any affirmative defense not raised in the answer.

The officer presiding over the hearing may grant relief from the requirement to file an Answer for good cause shown.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of September, 2008.

Matthew J. Neubert Director of Securities